

# The Sourdough

S E N T I N E L

Sept. 23, 2005

Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska

Vol. 56, No. 38

***We will remember!***



***-- Pages 12-13***

PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. ALAN PORT



# Moseley: Future of our Air Force

By Master Sgt. Mitch Gettle  
Air Force Print News

To determine the way ahead, one must understand the heritage and history of the Air Force, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. T. Michael Moseley said during his keynote address on the future of the Air Force at the Air Force Association's 2005 Air and Space Conference and Technology Exposition in Washington D.C. Sept. 14.

In World War I, the Allies were faced with breaking the German lines near the city of St. Mihiel. The Germans were entrenched and fortified, and it was up to Col. Billy Mitchell to plan the air offensive.

Looking at the plan and execution, it is very similar to the tactics the Air Force uses today to gain air superiority.

"First, (Colonel Mitchell) built a series of expeditionary airfields that had repair hangars, billeting, and messing facilities," General Moseley said. "He then stocked them with fuel and munitions. For the opening shot he sent his fighters deep into German airspace to directly attack the German air force. This cleared the way for the bombardment squadrons to directly attack German headquarters, troop concentrations, staging areas, transportation infrastructure, and airfields."

During his address, the general cited many of the founding fathers of air power as laying the foundation

for today's future.

"What (Colonel Mitchell) and these early, intrepid Airmen demonstrated in those frail (World War I) aircraft ... how they began to think and organize ... how they forever changed warfare -- they have given us a sense of perspective and a way to understand our future," he said.

Also, in understanding the future course for the Air Force, there are current challenges that must be met.

General Moseley cited three challenges the Air Force must tackle: focus on fighting the war on terrorism, continue to develop Airmen and recapitalize and modernize the inventory.

The Air Force has been involved in the war on terrorism for more than 1,400 days. After such a long time, as with most tasks, an air of complacency can set in, he said.

"Let me be clear: We cannot now, nor ever, lose sight of the fact that the mission of the United States Air Force is to fly and to fight," General Moseley said. "We fly and we fight ... that's what we do."

It is the Airmen who fly and fight, and training those Airmen is an Air Force priority.

"We clearly have the best people in the world," he said. "If we are going to ask our Airmen to defend this nation, then we owe it to them to give them the best opportunities for career development ... and give them the best possible standard of living and the best possible training."

The general said the Air Force must continue to make the training more realistic and find the right mix of joint, coalition and composite force training.

For the Air Force to train and fight, it has to have the proper equipment to ensure mission success.

"Old equipment is not a new problem," General Moseley said. "We are operating the oldest inventory of aircraft in our history."

The average age of the fleet has gone from 8 1/2 years old in 1967 to an average of 23 1/2 years old today, he said.

General Moseley commented on the way ahead for the Air Force and the four points that will drive its future:

■ The future total force must be not only adaptable to today's fight, but also tomorrow's fight and equally adaptable to unknown applications.

■ It must be seamless among the active duty, Guard and Reserve components.

■ It must operate in a joint environment; not only in what is purchased, but also in the way we fight, talk and think.

■ It must be affordable. "To meet these challenges though, we must continue to look for better ways to operationally exploit the air and space domain," the general said.

General Moseley also spoke of the innovativeness and execution the early pioneers of the Air Force used

to overcome obstacles in their path.

"The pioneers have given us a proud combat heritage, a heritage that speaks to us today," he said. "Their work, their ideas, and their courage propel us toward an unlimited horizon of opportunity which is the birthright of your Air Force."

"So when someone asks you what the Air Force will be doing in the future, tell them this: We will do what we have always done," he said. "We will stand on the shoulders of giants. We will take care of each other and every member of this great fighting force. We will innovate. And ... we will fly ... we will fight ... and we will win."



**Senior Airman Alan Coleman**, 3rd Communications Squadron communications control center technician, displayed outstanding performance during Phase I of Polar Force 05-4.

As the sole technician on shift, he supplemented the unit control center crew in running the 3rd CS UCC and 3rd CS CCC missions.

He created SIPRNet and Theater Battle Management Computer System accounts for more than 120 wing members, enabling the operations of 27 exercise centers for the successful launch of Polar Force 05-4.

**Capt. Raul Ochoa**, 517th Airlift Squadron training section, developed and implemented the 517th AS "Firebird Training" website, which provides real-time status on all aircrew training records for more than 200 squadron members.

The site also includes one-stop access to each training event description, syllabus, and required documentation and has significantly streamlined aircrew scheduling methods, substantially reducing training folder completion timelines and saving countless man-hours.

## Air Force Climate Survey coming soon

Airmen have the power to shape the future when the 2005 Air Force Climate Survey launches Oct. 1.

"The direction we take depends on you!" said Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Gerald Murray. "The motto of the 2005 Climate Survey, 'Speak Today, Shape Tomorrow,' accurately reflects the impact this survey has on our Air Force. It's your chance to provide honest and straightforward answers to issues that directly affect you and your fellow Airmen. Your identity is protected and every response is reviewed for consideration."

The survey, offered every two years since 1997, measures how people feel about leadership, supervision, training, recognition and other aspects of the Air Force. This year's survey also measures enduring com-

petencies such as effective communication, teamwork, judgment and adaptation under pressure.

The survey provides a total force perspective and includes active-duty members, civilians, the Air Force Reserve Command and Air National Guard.

The survey runs through Nov. 23 and can be completed online anytime during the survey period from either a government or personal computer. The survey can be found at <https://afclimatesurvey.af.mil/>.

For more information, or to find out who unit representatives are, call Penny Mosher, 3rd Mission Support Squadron manpower and organization flight, at 552-4455.

(Courtesy of Air Force Manpower Agency Public Affairs)



**Brig. Gen. Hawk Carlisle**  
3rd Wing commander

Do you have a problem you can't seem to get solved? Would you like to recognize someone for a job well done? The commander's action line is your avenue to communicate your questions, comments and concerns directly to the commander, Brig. Gen. Hawk Carlisle. Your calls will get the commander's personal attention and be answered in a timely manner.

If you have a question, call or e-mail the action line at:

**552-2224**  
**actionline@elmendorf.af.mil**

The following commanders stand ready to help you and can answer the majority of your questions. If they can't help, then please call the Action Line.

**Key phone numbers:**

- Col. Mike Hass, 3rd CES/CC 552-3007
- Maj. Mark Allen, 3rd SVS/CC 552-2468
- Maj. Mitch Bird, 3rd SFS/CC 552-4304



**The Sourdough**  
SENTINEL

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## 3rd Wing Moment in History Sept. 22, 1995:

Twenty-four lives were lost when an E-3B, 77-0354, Yukla 27, assigned to the 962nd Airborne Air Control Squadron, crashed on takeoff from Runway 05 after striking a flock of Canada Geese and losing power in the number one and two engines.





# Training, friendship reach new heights in exercise

By Master Sgt. Tim Hoffman  
Arctic SAREX Public Affairs

U.S., Russian and Canadian military training and cooperation were in a freefall last week – but that was a good thing, as pararescuemen from the three countries wrapped up a search and rescue exercise called Arctic SAREX 05.

The outdoor events concluded with a freefall jump from a U.S. HC-130 aircraft and HH-60 Pave Hawk helicopters provided by the Alaska Air National Guard.

“It was incredible,” said Canadian Master Corporal Andrew MacKenzie.

“That was the first time I’ve jumped from a helicopter, and it was really different. With an aircraft you get hit right away by 120 knot winds, but at 10,000 feet from a helo it takes a while to get air.”

Arctic SAREX aims to increase interoperability between the three countries responsible for conducting search and rescue operations in the Arctic region.

The exercise, in its 11th year, alternates hosts among the participating countries and this year was held at Eielson Air Force Base and at two nearby drop zones.

“We learned a lot by sharing our techniques and procedures,” said Russian Col. Valeriy Stepanov. “We have a lot to take back home with us that we will consider using in our operations.”

Earlier in the week the teams practiced alternate insertion and extraction techniques using fast ropes and hoists from HH-60 helicopters.

Then, they tested their skills during a mass casualty exercise.

“The scenario was centered on a U.S.-flagged commercial airliner that crashed in a remote Arctic region,” said Col. Steven Hatter, exercise director. “We mobilized a joint U.S., Russian and Canadian rescue effort.

“The joint team went in, triaged the victims, then transported them to a medical facility – nearby Bassett Army Community Hospital on Fort Wainwright.”

Mock injuries, complete with realistic makeup and bilingual injury cards around victims’ necks made the training as realistic as possible.

“This was superb medical training,” said Colonel Hatter.

“It enabled us to really hit one of our main goals of the exercise



PHOTOS BY STAFF SGT. JOSHUA STRANG

**A Russian pararescueman recovers his equipment after jumping out of an Alaska Air National Guard C-130 aircraft with U.S. and Canadian pararescuemen during Arctic SAREX 05. The tri-national exercise aims to improve interoperability between the three countries.**

which was to share our tactics, techniques, and procedures.”

Another goal of Arctic SAREX is to foster military-to-military contact, or more simply, build relationships.

“We can’t predict world events like the recent hurricane on the U.S. Gulf coast or a Pacific tsunami,” said Canadian Lt. Col. Colin Goodman. “But we can predict that sometime in the near future we will be called on to work together.

“Whether it’s an airliner going down on the busy polar routes, like we exercised this week, or an earthquake scenario, it may need Canada’s involvement. But to be most effective in any combined action we have to establish a relationship beforehand, and that’s exactly what we are doing here.”

The Russian and hosts also echoed the importance of rela-

tionship building.

“The Russian delegation changes constantly, except for me,” said Colonel Stepanov. “I was a rescuer in the first exercise in Tiksi, Russia, in 1994. I’ve been promoted now and don’t get to jump, so sometimes I think I shouldn’t have let the promotions happen,” he said with a laugh.

“We always enjoy the teamwork, friendship and warm welcome we get every year and look forward to next year.”

Some may think language is a barrier, but that’s not the case.

“Arctic SAREX is about knocking down barriers,” said Colonel Hatter. “We have interpreters as part of our operations, but it’s amazing as we work throughout the week we communicate better and better even though we don’t speak the same language.”



**Two HH-60 Pave Hawk helicopters are refueled by an HC-130 aircraft during Arctic SAREX 05. Pararescuemen from the U.S., Russia and Canada jumped from both C-130 and HH-60 aircraft.**

# JUST DONATE IT

## Blood Drive

The Blood Bank of Alaska will hold a drive Monday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., at the Arctic Oasis Community Center.

Many people try to squeeze in one last trip this time of year while the weather transitions to the cooler fall conditions. With so many vehicles on the roads, accidents can happen. For example, one car accident can consume 50 units of blood. Come out and support this worthwhile cause. The life you save could be yours.

To schedule an appointment, contact your unit blood drive monitor or 1st Lt. Veronica Acker at 552-9982, e-mail [veronica.acker@elmendorf.af.mil](mailto:veronica.acker@elmendorf.af.mil), or 1st Lt. Graham Davey at 552-5324, e-mail [graham.davey@elmendorf.af.mil](mailto:graham.davey@elmendorf.af.mil).

## Claims office closes doors for two weeks

Due to fiscal year closeout, the claims division office will be unable to process claims until Sept. 30.

Exceptions will be made for claims that are nearing their two-year statute of limitations.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

Contact the claims division office at 552-5410 if you have any questions. (Courtesy of 3rd Wing Legal office)





# Youth earns CAP award

Courtesy of 3rd Wing Public Affairs

On Sept. 16, in front of the P-38 Memorial, Col. Scotty Lewis, 3rd Wing vice commander presented the Billy Mitchell Award to Civil Air Patrol Cadet 2nd Lt. Matthew Toussain.

C/2 Lieutenant Toussain is a member of the Civil Air Patrol’s 17th Composite Arc-turus Squadron on Elmendorf, and has successfully reached a milestone in his career as a cadet.

He is no longer a chief, but rather advances to the officer’s rank, said Master Sgt. Milton Toussain, 17th CAS deputy commander of cadets.

Earning the rank of an officer is not easy, he said, as only 15 percent of CAP cadets will earn this distinction.

According to Sergeant Tous-sain, it has been awhile since the 17th CAS has had a Billy Mitchell Award winner.

“Other squadrons have had them, but this is the first one in three years from Elmendorf,” said Sergeant Toussain.

To earn this award, cadets must pass a series of leader-ship, aerospace and physical fitness tests, Sergeant Toussain said, to include a comprehen-sive test.

They must also attend moral



COURTESY PHOTO

Cadet 2nd Lt. Matthew Toussain

leadership for each enlisted grade earned, as well as CAP encampment (boot camp).

The General Billy Mitchell Award has existed since 1964, according to the CAP web site.

The award honors the late Brig. Gen. Billy Mitchell, aviation pioneer, advocate, and staunch supporter of an inde-pendent Air Force for America.

“The Billy Mitchell Award personifies the inner drive not to give up against the odds,” said Sergeant Toussain.

Although cadets who receive the Mitchell Award are able to advance to E-3 upon enlist-ing; Matthew sees the Civil Air Patrol as the most direct avenue to prepare himself for the Air Force Academy said Sergeant Toussain.

## Elmendorf offers online Tuition Assistance

The Elmendorf Education Of-fice officially launched online Tu-ition Assistance (TA), an innova-tive program that allows Air Force members to apply for Tuition Assistance from their workstations or temporary duty locations rather than physically coming down to the Education Office.

This program is the culmination of a larger initiative called the “Air Force Virtual Education Center.”

Recognizing a trend toward cre-ating greater efficiency and deliv-ery of services to our active-duty members, Air Force Education Services developed this initiative to streamline the process of receiv-ing education services for those troops who aren’t always afforded the convenience and opportunity to come to the Education Office.

AFVEC and online TA repre-sent a revolution in the way educa-tion services will be offered to our troops.

Traditionally, AF members have been completely dependent upon a personal visit to the Edu-cation Office for receiving TA or other education services.

With deployments and the cur-rent operational tempo, an increas-ing number of members have experienced difficulty in receiving education services from deployed locations, relying on faxes and e-mails to communicate with their

home station.

AF Education Services, real-izing these members require a greater degree of independence and self-sufficiency to carry out their educational goals, initiated AFVEC to empower Airmen and eliminate this dependency.

In addition to applying for TA, members may also view their Community College of the Air Force Progress Report, request transcripts, update their education record, check CLEP and DANTES scores, obtain CLEP and DANTES study guides, review their course enrollment history and grades, and find information on Professional Military Education, the Montgom-ery GI Bill, commissioning pro-grams, and many more programs, services and opportunities.

To access AFVEC, log on to the AF Portal, click the Career tab, and select the AF Virtual Educa-tion Center option.

Members will be routed to the AFVEC homepage, where they can set up their account and explore the features AFVEC has to offer.

For assistance in getting set up or navigating through the website, call the Education Center at 552-3164.

*(Courtesy of the 3rd Mission Support Squadron Education Of-fice)*

# Canadian Airman saves man from drowning

**By Canadian Forces Warrant Officer Cameron Winters**  
962nd Airborne Air Control Squadron

There's a little hero in all of us ... at least we like to think there is.

One of the military members in our Canadian community proved that recently.

On Aug. 25, at approximately 11 a.m. at the Russian River Ferry, Sergeant Joel Langley with family, including his parents, was spending some time sightseeing at the river, when someone shouted "Man in the water!"

Sergeant Langley was up on the shore of the river when he heard the call for help.

He turned around and saw a man face down in the river floating past numerous fishermen.

Sergeant Langley, quickly realizing what was happening, handed his wallet to his son and with little regard for his own safety, charged into the cold, fast flowing river to help a fellow man in a dire situation.

He quickly managed to grab onto the man and pulled him to shore, with the aid of another bystander.

Once on shore, many of the other bystanders rushed in to help the man until emergency medical technicians arrived and

began caring for him.

Had Sergeant Langley not reacted when he did, the elderly man in the water, who was blue in the face by the time he got to him, would not likely have survived because if he had made it to the bend in the river just downstream from their location, no one could have gotten to him in time.

Because of Sergeant Langley's selfless actions, the man was in stable condition when the EMTs arrived and he refused further treatment stating how embarrassed he was to have caused such a ruckus.

According to the Alaska State Troopers, the man slipped on the river bottom and, because of the rushing water, was unable to regain his footing.

Sergeant Langley's heroic act was likely the only reason this man is alive today.

After this event, all kinds of emotions have flowed through him.

He feels exhilaration for knowing he saved someone from an almost certain death.

He also expressed concern over the message that this incident portrayed to his two young children. "Did I do the right thing? What if the river had taken me too? Should I have thought about my family



COURTESY PHOTO

**Canadian Forces Sergeant Joel Langley, white and black cap, helps pull a man out of the Russian River Aug. 25. Sergeant Langley was sightseeing with his family when he was alerted to the man drowning. Sergeant Langley is an Airborne Surveillance Technician with the 962nd Airborne Air Control Squadron.**

before jumping in the river?"

Of course these thoughts would go through his head afterward... but a true hero does not always think of these things before he reacts to help another human being.

As far as the message that he gave to his children? What better

message could a father give to his children, than to see their dad selflessly save another's life.

Bravo Zulu Sergeant Langley, you are the true definition of a hero my friend and we are all very proud to have you on our Canadian team.





PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS GARRETT HOTHAN

Airman 1st Class Tainell Cates

**Duty title:** 11th Operational Weather Squadron, weather information manager  
**Hometown:** Waianae, Hawaii  
**Hobbies:** Spending time with her daughter, physical training, movies, shopping, outdoors  
**Mission Contributions:** Staff support, client system administrator, liaison between squadron and 611th Air Operations Group, performs information manager duties for the Tailored Air Operation Center  
**Time at Elmendorf:** Two years  
**Time in the Air Force:** Two years  
**Best part of being in Alaska:** Being surrounded by beauty  
**Supervisor’s comments:** “Airman Cates is a highly motivated, hard charging, young role model with an unquenchable thirst for knowledge who always seeks out ways to improve her skills as an Information Manager. She is the consummate overachiever in everything she does whether it is work, family, school, or volunteerism.” Senior Master Sgt. Bradley Wasson



PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS DE-JUAN HALEY

Master Sgt. Andrew Freed

**Duty title:** 3rd Communications Squadron, noncommissioned officer in charge of high frequency systems recently deployed to the 379th Expeditionary Communications Squadron as the radio frequency communications project officer  
**Deployment experience:** “This deployment has proven to be challenging, yet very rewarding. The operations tempo here is very high-paced with many requirements that require a lot of coordination. But the most challenging part of the deployment is the 120 degree temperature with 95 percent humidity. I will never complain about an Alaskan winter again.”

## Education Fair

Talk to school representatives today from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Education Center.

Counselors are available to discuss and complete financial aid forms.

For information, call 552-3292.

## Family Support Center

■ Join the FSC for a spouse connection coffee break at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday at the Arctic Oasis Community Center.

■ A Bundles for Babies class, designed for parents-to-be or new parents is Thursday, at the FSC at 9 a.m.

The class explains what resources are available and a free gift is provided to attendees. For information or to register, call 552-4943.

## Hurricane relief efforts

The Child Development Centers, Youth Center, School Age Program and the Arctic Oasis Community Center are accepting non-perishable food donations (no glass containers) through Sept. 30. For information, call 552-8529.

## Tire changeover

Spouses and family members of deployed servicemembers can contact the Chapel Center or their member’s first sergeant for a voucher to have their studded tires installed.

The service is performed by Johnson’s Tire Service and vouchers expire Oct. 9. For more information, call the Chapel Center at 552-4422.

## Safety down-day

The 3rd Wing will observe Thursday as its Fall Safety Day.

There will be mandatory briefings at the base theater as scheduled:

- 8:30-9:30 a.m. – 3rd Mission Support Group
- 10-11 a.m. – 3rd Maintenance Group
- 12:30-1:30 p.m. – Tenant units and all others unable to attend scheduled times
- 2-4 p.m. – 3rd Operations Group

For more information, call the 3rd Wing Safety office at 552-2717.

## Housing residents

Aurora Military Family Housing representatives are now authorized to issue parking citations in the housing areas.

Copies of the citation will be given to 3rd Security Forces Squadron and the member’s respective first sergeant.

## OEF/OIF veterans

A free seven-week educational series, “Is life ever normal,” sponsored by the Veterans Affairs office, is available at 2925 Debarr Rd. from 6:30-8 p.m. through Nov. 1.

It covers:

- Homecoming after deployment
- Common reactions to war
- Family, friends, relationships
- Resources for returning troops
  - Mental Health resources
  - Dealing with sleep problems
- Long Term Emotional Health
- Stress coping skills

### ■ Spirituality

Call 257-4827 for information or email [evangeline.williams@med.va.gov](mailto:evangeline.williams@med.va.gov).

## Arctic Bazaar

The 20th Annual Arctic Bazaar is scheduled Oct. 15 in Hangar 5 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For vendor information, call 694-1106. For volunteer information, call 644-4728.

## Renter’s Insurance

All Aurora Phase II residents are eligible for free renter’s insurance and may also receive \$8 credit per month if personal insurance is already in place.

For information, call 753-1023.

## Haunted house help

The Fall Fest Haunted House is Oct. 28-30 at the Yukon Activity Center.

Volunteers are needed to build the house, sell tickets, act as guides and work as various monsters and ghouls. For information or to volunteer, call 552-8529.

## AAHC talent competition

The African-American Heritage Council is seeking competitors for its talent competition from 5-9 p.m. Oct. 22 at the base theater.

Auditions will be held Saturday and Oct. 1 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at the base theater.

For information, email [karisha.robinson@elmendorf.af.mil](mailto:karisha.robinson@elmendorf.af.mil) or call 552-2370.



## Chapel Schedule

### Catholic Parish

- Monday through Wednesday and Friday Mass: 11:30 a.m. at the Chapel Center
- Thursday Mass: 11:30 a.m. at the Hospital Chapel
- Sunday Mass: 10:30 a.m. at Chapel 1
- Sunday Evening Mass: 5 p.m. at Chapel 2
- Confession: 6 p.m. Sundays at Chapel 2

### Protestant Sunday

- Liturgical Service: 9 a.m. at Chapel 2
- Celebration Service: 9 a.m. at Chapel 1
- Gospel Service: noon at Chapel 1
- Fellowship Praise: 6 p.m. at Chapel 1

### Religious Education

- Catholic Religious Education: Sunday at 9 a.m. at the Chapel Center.
- Protestant Sunday School: 10:30 a.m. at the Chapel Center.

For more information, call the Chapel at 552-4422.

# Power Hour offers homework help

By Mrs. Mary Rall  
3rd Services Marketing

Base youth have an opportunity to take advantage of a helping hand and the resources available through the Youth Center’s Power Hour after school homework assistant program.

The program is offered for youth in junior high school from 3-5 p.m. and elementary school students from 4-5 p.m. Monday through Friday, said Jennifer Lamar, a Youth Center recreation assistant.

“It’s a quiet place for them to come and do their homework. There’s an adult on hand that helps the kids if they have a question,” Lamar said. “We will not do their work for them or give them the answers, but we will point them in the right direction toward getting the answers they need.”

The program is meant to compliment parents’ roles rather than take their place.

“We’re not a substitution for parents, but we are here to make parents’ jobs easier. If the children are here, parents know they’re going to get the outlet they need and it’s not something they’re going to have to worry about at home,” Lamar said. “They need a place to get their homework done and a lot of the time right after school is the only time they have to do it.”

In addition to staff members who can help guide youth in the right direction, the program has a special room set aside at the facility with resources such as three bookshelves of reference materials, computers for performing research and writing assignments and school supplies, Lamar said.

A measure of comfort is added to the room as well through the availability of both tables and couches to work at and animals such as rabbits, gerbils, hamsters and hermit crabs.

“The animals are soothing for the kids because they can walk over and pet them or pick them up if they need a break or to relax a little,” Lamar said. “Pretty much everything in the room is conducive to

creating a sound learning environment.” Youth taking advantage of the program’s resource testify to the usefulness of the program and its staff.

“I’m in the eighth grade, and I get a lot of homework. It’s a quiet place to do your homework and there are people here to help you,” said Erin Dutton, a Central Middle School student. “I’ve used the computers for school projects like a language arts project that I had to write a bio-poem about myself for.”

The Power Hour program is funded in part by a grant awarded by the J.C. Penny After School Fund, Lamar said.

The \$5,000 grant was awarded to the center for the second consecutive year Sept. 8.

“It’s important because we were able to use the money to do things last year like buy new tables and chairs because the others were falling apart and we were able to paint the room,” Lamar said. “This year’s money will be used to upgrade the encyclopedias the youth use as reference materials and purchase school supplies such as paper, scientific calculators and more program incentives.”

After school programs such as Power Hour are of particular interest for J.C. Penny.

“One of the real challenges youth have going for them is finding productive things to do after school,” said Dan Durkin, the Anchorage J.C. Penny store manager. “There are really so many kids today that come home to an empty house both in and outside of the military ... programs like Power Hour are just one way to get them involved with something constructive.”

Lamar said the program is currently being used by about 14 youth, with the numbers growing all the time. Participation in the Power Hour program is open to all Youth Center members.

There is no additional participation fee for Power Hour.





# ASYMCA keeps base residents rolling

By **Samantha L. Quigley**  
American Forces Press Service

Staff members of the Armed Services YMCA at Elmendorf have stepped up to solve a transportation problem for people stationed here and at nearby Fort Richardson.

Airman Waylon Roberts, 3rd Medical Operations Squadron, and his wife, Chasity, found the ASYMCA shuttle service very helpful on trips to the Joint Military Mall.

For instance, it's about eight miles one way from the housing area at Fort Richardson to the exchange, store officials said. And even though the store is on Elmendorf, residents here don't get much of a break. It's still an across-base walk.

The ASYMCA solved this problem with a free shuttle service that runs from 7 a.m. until 8 p.m daily.

Since March, John Williams, the local ASYMCA's transportation manager and a former Army staff sergeant, and his staff of two have been driving residents of the two bases to appointments and to do their shopping.

The crew also has standing appointments to pick up civilian employees who either don't drive or don't have vehicles at bus stops near the gates and drop them off at their offices, and then take them back out to the gates at the end of the day. Some, like interns, may not have vehicles, and other employees don't drive for a

variety of reasons.

On weekends, the transportation service will take residents from either base to a transportation hub in downtown Anchorage as well.

A nonprofit organization, the ASYMCA is a national member association of the YMCA of the USA and works with the Department of Defense. The ASYMCA has provided child care, hospital assistance, spouse support services, food services, computer training classes, health and wellness services, holiday meals, and other services to servicemembers and their families for more than 140 years. It is focused on junior-enlisted men and women.

"The program was requested by the servicemembers," said retired Army Lt. Col. Peter Mulcahy, ASYMCA of Alaska's executive director and a former unit commander at Fort Richardson from 2000-2002. He said the transportation issue came up repeatedly at town hall meetings.

Mr. Mulcahy said rules governing the use of appropriated funds for transportation nipped other transportation ideas in the bud. "Any kind of scheduled service just doesn't work. We've tried it periodically. So we had to get the free taxi," he said.

Airman Roberts, a recent arrival at Elmendorf, said it took almost an hour and a half to take the base shuttle bus to the exchange, a real inconvenience for him and his family until

their car catches up with them.

"If it was just me, it'd be all right," said Airman Roberts. But he'll need to drive their only vehicle to work, and his wife and daughter will still need a way to get around.

Mr. Williams said junior enlisted servicemembers and their families are the most frequent riders of the service.

"I think this program is needed on every military post," Mr. Williams said, "(because of) the fact of the high prices of the taxi cabs, the high prices of fuel. It saves a lot of people fuel."

One driver, Debra Templeton, agreed that the program would be welcome on every post. Her husband and Mr. Williams' wife are both deployed with the Army's 164th Military Police Company from Fort Richardson. Mrs. Templeton said she wishes something similar had been available at other duty stations.

To use the YMCA's program, riders call a dispatcher, who will contact the closest driver. That driver will go anywhere on either base to pick up and deliver riders to their desired destination. One of the drivers will then pick them up when they're finished.

Sometimes the driving team goes above and beyond the call of duty. Mr. Williams said that driver Makeba Brown got a call one night after hours from a mother with a baby who had a high fever and had started convulsing. Mrs. Brown picked up the mother and child on Fort Richardson and got

them to the base hospital. When they arrived, the baby's fever had spiked to 105.4.

Mr. Williams explained that that response time for the ambulance could have been six to eight minutes, depending on where it responded from. This response time was lessened by Mrs. Brown's intimate knowledge of the housing areas and roads between the two bases from driving the ASYMCA vans. The baby was treated for the high fever and released to her mother after the fever broke.

The program operates on donations, some of which come from the riders themselves. Most, however, come from the civilian public and corporations, Mr. Mulcahy said, adding that it takes about \$40,000 a year to maintain one vehicle with one driver. Donations so far have come in the form of cash and good deals on the two vans used in the operation.

Since March 1, the program has racked up more than 15,000 accident-free miles and carried more than 1,400 passengers, Mr. Williams said. With these accomplishments in hand, Mr. Williams said he really only wishes for a few more vehicles and drivers.

To schedule a ride, call 552-FREE (552-3733).

For more information on this or any other ASYMCA program, call 552-9622 or visit [www.asymca.ak.org](http://www.asymca.ak.org).



# Arctic Life

*Great living in the great land*

## Snapshots from the front



PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS DE-JUAN HALEY



PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS DE-JUAN HALEY

**Left:** Master Sgt. Andrew Freed, 3rd Communications Squadron, deployed to the 379th Expeditionary Communications Squadron, scans various frequencies on a Land Mobile Radio at a base in the Central Command's Area of Responsibility.

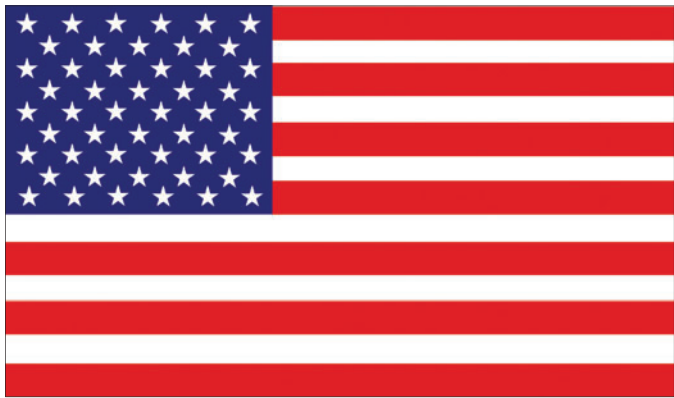
**Above:** Tech. Sgt. Brian Eder, 3rd CS, deployed to the 379th ECS, works at swapping and programming more than 1,400 radios and many other aspects of communications to bring the base online.

**Below:** Airman 1st Class De-Juan Haley, 3rd CS, deployed to the 379th ECS, documents deployed life as he takes still photographs.



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. RIAHNNON WILLARD





PHOTOS BY STAFF SGT. ALAN PORT

**Left:** Members of the Rolling Thunder Vietnam Veterans' Motorcycle Club bring in the colors to the Elmendorf National POW/MIA Recognition Day Ceremony Sept. 16.  
**Above:** Former World War II prisoner of war Joe Opalka was the guest speaker for the ceremony.  
**Right:** Bulldog, a member of the Rolling Thunder, inspects the M-16 before placing it on the stand as part of the Fallen Warrior Ceremony during POW/MIA Recognition Day Ceremony.  
**Bottom:** Members of the Rolling Thunder salute during the playing of taps during the ceremony.  
**On the cover:** Members of the Elmendorf Honor Guard stand ready for the Elmendorf National POW/MIA Recognition Day Ceremony Sept. 16.



# Lest we never forget

**By Lt. Col. Michael Halbig**  
3rd Wing Public Affairs

As it turned out, most people in attendance felt that the cool, blustery, overcast weather on Sept. 16 added to rather than detracted from a ceremony to remember those who have gone before us, those who gave of their lives and were captured by the enemy or that are simply, missing. On that day, the men and women of Elmendorf recognized those brethren in arms who earned the titles "Prisoner of War" and/or "Missing In Action" with a somber ceremony at the base's POW/MIA Memorial.

It was more than just the current members of the Elmendorf community that took part in the ceremony; also in attendance were former military members, community leaders and former POWs themselves. The Rolling Thunder Vietnam Veterans' Motorcycle Club kicked off the event by rolling down Sijan Avenue, carrying the colors to the Elmendorf Air Force Base Honor Guard who then posted them.

Retired Chief Master Sgt. Jerry Beale read a proclamation from the Honorable Frank Murkowski, governor of Alaska, proclaiming the day as POW/MIA Day throughout the state.

Members of Rolling Thunder reappeared and performed the Fallen Warrior Ceremony, honoring all POW/MIAs with

a rifle, a helmet, a pair of combat boots, a set of dog tags and a red rose symbolizing their plight.

Former lieutenant, and prisoner of war during World War II, Joe Opalka, spoke on the conditions they endured as prisoners, as well as things he's done since leaving the military to keep the memory of the POWs and MIAs alive.

Mr. Opalka was a crewman on a bomber that was hit by enemy fire while over Austria and he bailed out of the aircraft while over northern Yugoslavia where he was captured by angry Nazi sympathizers.

In discussing the poor conditions the prisoners endured, he mentioned that Adolph Hitler had found a great menu for the men to lose weight, noting that he went from "183 pounds to 119 in just seven months."

More than 9,300 Army Air Corps officers were in the prison camp he was in when they were liberated by the Russians. After his liberation he was transported to France, spent seven days on a ship to New Jersey and then was granted 25 days of leave.

It was only when he got home, he said, that his family found out that he had been captured. "I'd written some letters but I guess they never made it out of Germany," said Mr. Opalka.

Shortly after that he separated from the military, but has never stopped work-

ing for the POWs in Alaska. He helped to organize the POWs living in the state and led the drive to have the POW license plates authorized.

As a result of his efforts, he was granted the honor of receiving the plate "POW 001", something he says he is "very proud of." It moves from car to car with him and he has promised to bequeath it to his son once he dies.

He completed his talk with a note to those in the audience who are currently serving the nation: "Thank you to all in the military. You're doing a great job and we all appreciate it here in the States."

Mr. Opalka was joined by Col. Scotty Lewis, 3rd Wing vice commander, and retired Col. Will Abbott, former 3rd Wing commander and former POW during the Vietnam War, in laying a wreath at the memorial.

Chief Master Sgt. Robert Tappana, 3rd Wing command chief and narrator of the ceremony, concluded the ceremony by reminding servicemembers that POW/MIA status is not a thing of the past, but does continue to this day with our most recent conflicts to include Navy Capt. Michael Scott Speicher, missing since the first day of the Gulf War, Jan. 17, 1991, and Army Sgt. Keith "Matt" Maupin, missing since April 9, 2004 when his convoy from Balad to Baghdad International Airport, Iraq, was attacked.





# Polar Bowl starts fall season

By Mrs. Mary Rall  
3rd Services Marketing

The Polar Bowl is starting the fall season off with new equipment, fresh ideas and some first-of-its-kind programming for the entire base to enjoy.

The latest upgrade to the facility includes new pinsetters that will see action at the first ever 3rd Mission Support Group Commander Challenge Bowling Tournament Thursday at 1 p.m. at the Polar Bowl.

Initial entry into this event will be open to teams from base squadrons, and remaining slots can be filled by other interested participants.

A total of 36 five-person teams will compete. Each team will contain at least two members of each unit's leadership at this nine pin, no tap tournament. Entry fee for the tournament is \$10 per person.

Entry includes three games of bowling, shoe rental, one large one topping pizza and two pitchers of soda per team. Beverage tasting will be offered from facility vendors as well and free snacks will be available for tournament participants. A traveling trophy will be awarded to the winning squadron.

Further play opportunities include the all new Star Wars Strike Force League. Sign ups begin Oct. 1, and league play will begin Oct. 23.

Participants in that league will have a

choice between the Star Wars package, which includes a choice of one of seven different Star Wars themed balls and a bag, or the Jedi Package, which includes a life-sized Darth Vader standee, a Star Wars ball cap and a set of six original Star Wars movie posters. These collectible packages are available to league members only.

Those interested in a different sort of league can put all their cards on the table at a Texas Hold 'Em and Bowl 'Em League. This high roller package includes a set number of games and a weekly round of Texas Hold 'Em.

All participants in this league will receive an exclusive "All In" bowling shirt and a casino quality poker set in an aluminum case and will be eligible to win one of three airline vouchers that can be used to try their luck in Las Vegas. Sign ups for this league begin Oct. 1 and play begins Nov. 3. A minimum of 20 participants are needed for this program.

Those simply looking for a night out can also take advantage of special offers throughout the week to include daily afternoon bargains Monday-Friday, Family Xtreme Bowling Sundays, Airmen's Special Mondays, Bowler Appreciation Night Tuesdays, Wednesday Night Madness, Red Pin Bowling Thursdays and Open Bowling Fridays.

For more information, call 552-4108.

**PARTY ON:** Start your weekend with the Glacier Nite Club Grand Reopening and 2005 Membership Drive Kick Off Party at 9 p.m. at the Kashim Club. 753-3131

**MOVIE:** *The Dukes of Hazard* (PG) Bo and Luke Duke, who with the help of their eye-catching cousin Daisy and Uncle Jesse, try and save the family farm from being destroyed by Hazzard County's corrupt commissioner Boss Hogg. Their efforts constantly find the "Duke Boys" eluding authorities in "The General Lee," their famed 1969 orange Dodge Charger, keeping them one step ahead of the dim-witted antics of the small southern town's Sheriff Coltrane. 7 p.m.

## :::sat

**BIKE TRIP:** Explore local trails on an Anchorage Trails Ride 10 a.m. for free at the Outdoor Recreation Center. 552-2023

**MOVIE:** *The Dukes of Hazard* (PG) See movie description above. 7 p.m.

## :::sun

**DINE OUT:** Treat yourself to Sunday Brunch from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Susitna Club. 753-3131

**MOVIE:** *The Great Raid* (R) Two brothers overcome emotional and physical obstacles to achieve success in the competitive world of Supercross racing. The brothers' conflicts are magnified by their different life choices and their decision to become competitors and rivals. 7 p.m.

## :::fyi

**NFL TICKET:** Satellite football is now offered Sundays at 8:30 a.m. at the Kashim Club. Be sure to stop by and catch live games or drop by the club Monday nights for Football Frenzy, which will have opportunities for club members to win tickets to the Super Bowl or Pro Bowl as well as weekly prizes. Both programs are open to all ranks. 753-3131

## :::inside the fence

**Open Bowling,** Today from 5 p.m. to 1 a.m. for \$2.75 per game at the Polar Bowl. 552-4108

**Baked Potato Bar Social Hour,** Today from 5-6 p.m. featuring snacks and specials at The Cave and the Kashim Lounge. 753-3131

**All Night Xtreme Bowling,** Saturday, 10 p.m. to 1 a.m. for \$18 per person at the Polar Bowl. 552-4108

**Old School Party,** Saturday, 9 p.m. to 3 a.m. at the Kashim Club. 753-3131

**Monthly Field Trip,** Saturday with the Young Adult Center. 753-2371

**Membership Mania 2-4-1 Dining,** Saturday at the Susitna Club. 753-3131

**Live Football,** Watch the biggest games via satellite Sunday at the Kashim Club. The doors open at 8:30 a.m. Open to all ranks. 753-3131

**Family Xtreme Bowling,** Get two hours of Xtreme bowling, shoe rental, two pitchers of soda and popcorn for \$30 for up to six people per lane Sunday, 1-8 p.m. at the Polar Bowl. 552-4108

**Road Bike Training Ride,** Monday at 5:30 p.m., free at the Outdoor Recreation Center. 552-2023

**Red Pin Bowling,** Get a

strike with a red headpin and receive a free game for every paid game Monday, 5-9 p.m. at the Polar Bowl. 552-4108

**Football Frenzy,** Qualify to get a trip to the Super Bowl and free food when your pre-registered team plays Monday at 5 p.m. at the Kashim Club. 753-3131

**Children's Story Time,** Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. at the Library. 552-3787

**Take It, Make It Crafts,** Free to take home throughout the day Tuesday at the Library. 552-3787

**Bowler Appreciation Night,** Enjoy bowling for \$1.75 per game, Tuesday, 5-9 p.m. at the Polar Bowl. 552-4108

**Kayak Pool Training,** Tuesday at 8 p.m. for \$25 at the Fitness Center Pool with the Outdoor Adventure Program. 552-2023

**Crab Soccer,** Wednesday with the Young Adult Center 753-2371

**Wednesday Night Madness,** Enjoy unlimited bowling Wednesday from 5-9 p.m. for \$18 per lane for up to five people at the Polar Bowl. Shoes not included. 552-4108

**Introduction to Photography,** Wednesday from 5:30-9:30 p.m. for \$45, bring own camera, limited to

five people at the Arts and Crafts Center. 552-7012

**Airmen's Special,** E-4's and below and their families receive a 50 percent discount on all open bowling and shoe rentals Thursday, 5-9 p.m. at the Polar Bowl. 552-4108

**Football,** Thursday from 4:30 to 6 p.m. with the Young Adult Center. 753-2371

**3 MSG/CC Challenge Bowling Tournament,** Thursday at 1 p.m. at the Polar Bowl for \$10 per person. Includes three games, shoe rental, one large one topping pizza and two pitchers of soda per team. 552-4108

**Mountain Bike Training Ride,** Thursday at 5:30 p.m. for free at the Outdoor Recreation Center. 552-2023

**Build Your Own Sandwich Bar Social Hour,** Sept. 30, 5-6 p.m. featuring snacks and specials at The Cave and the Kashim Lounge. 753-3131

**Open Bowling,** Sept. 30, 5 p.m. to 1 a.m. for \$2.75 per game at the Polar Bowl. 552-4108

**Power Hour Pizza Hour,** Sept. 30 from 8-9 p.m. with the Young Adult Center. 753-2371

*\* Arts and Crafts Center classes must be signed up for three days in advance.*

# Air Force Aces

By **Capt. Tony Wickman**  
Alaskan Command Public Affairs

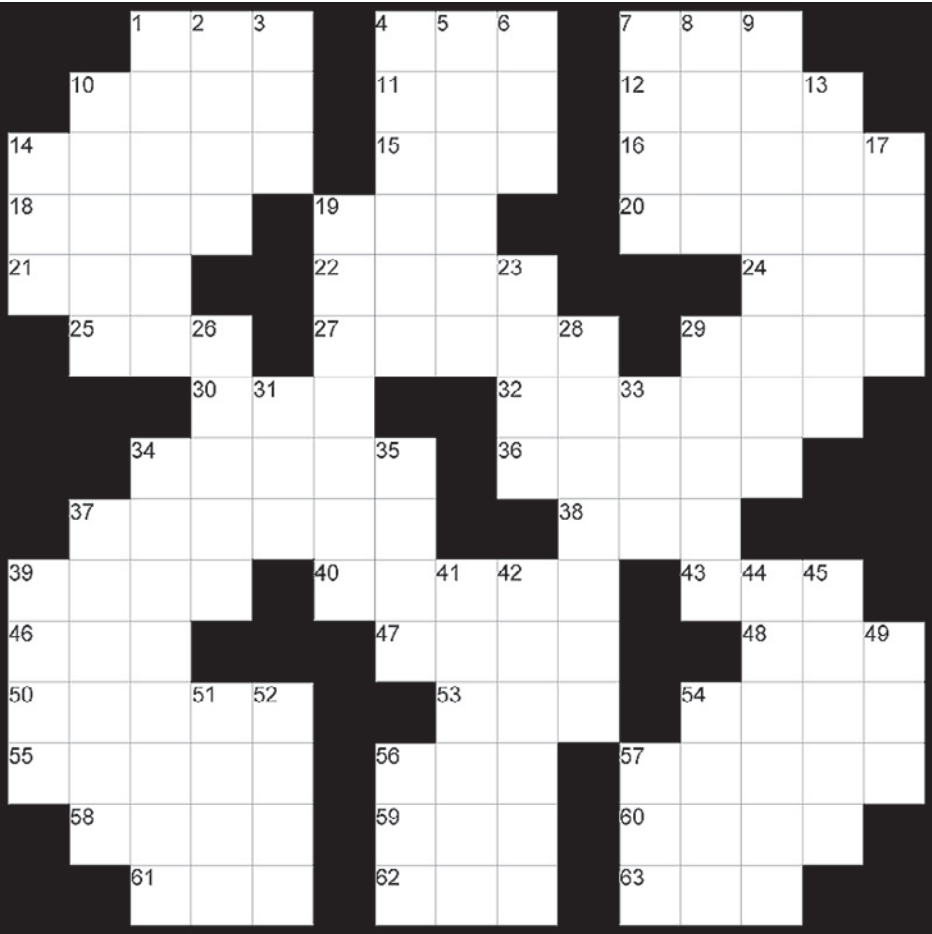
**ACROSS**

- 1. Blackberry, Palm Pilot, etc.
- 4. USAF Maj. \_\_\_\_ T. Robbins (22 – W WII)
- 7. Bachelor’s spot
- 10. Servant
- 11. Dined
- 12. Sigh of regret
- 14. Young girl’s toys
- 15. Swimsuit part
- 16. Rolls-\_\_\_\_; luxury car
- 18. USAF ace Capt. John J. \_\_\_\_ (21 – WWII)
- 19. \_\_\_\_-tai; tropical drink
- 20. Building construction material
- 21. Rapping “doctor”
- 22. Slop
- 24. Cell material, in short
- 25. Aliens
- 27. Player
- 29. Places
- 30. Greek letter

- 32. Pivotal WWII battle in the Pacific
- 34. Ghanaian currencies
- 36. T-bone or strip
- 37. Watch out!
- 38. Federal spy org.
- 39. Ordnances
- 40. Third rock from the sun?
- 43. Mil. pay entitlement
- 46. Chunk
- 47. Asian
- 48. Korean cash
- 50. \_\_\_\_-garde; innovative
- 53. Drink need
- 54. Poi base
- 55. Fight
- 56. Pen filler
- 57. USAF ace Col. Royal N. \_\_\_\_ (16.5 – WWII/Korea)
- 58. Drift
- 59. Foot part
- 60. Pilots with 5+ kills
- 61. VCR setting
- 62. SECDEF’s office symbol
- 63. 2,000 lbs

**DOWN**

- 1. Cargo item
- 2. Pickle type
- 3. Commercials
- 4. USAF ace Maj. James \_\_\_\_ (15.5 – WWII/Korea)
- 5. Heart part
- 6. Vote in agreement
- 7. USAF ace Capt. Ralph S. \_\_\_\_Jr. (10 – Korea)
- 8. Lotion ingredient
- 9. First light
- 10. USAF ace Capt. Lonnie R. \_\_\_\_ (10 – Korea)
- 13. Meager
- 14. VCR replacement



*Last week’s solutions*

- 17. Periods
- 19. USAF ace Maj. Thomas B. \_\_\_\_ Jr. (38 – WWII)
- 23. Reps. opponent
- 26. Simmers
- 28. USAF ace Capt. R. Stephen \_\_\_\_ (5 – Vietnam)
- 29. USAF ace 1st Lt. Jacques M. \_\_\_\_ (10 – WWI)
- 31. Oklahoma town
- 33. Opus \_\_\_\_; Roman Catholic org.
- 34. Harpsichord
- 35. Chair

- 37. More bold
- 39. First man
- 41. Zoo animals
- 42. Nailed to a wall
- 44. Rouse out of bed
- 45. Infections
- 49. Neither’s partner
- 51. *The Subject Was Roses* actress Patricia
- 52. Provisional worker, as in an office
- 54. Tex-Mex dinner menu item
- 56. Simpson trial judge
- 57. Baseball tool



# SPORTSPAGE



PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. ALAN PORT

## Catch me if you can

Joe Yanes, 381st Intelligence Squadron football team, runs with the football as he tries to keep away from Justin Kilgore, 90th Aircraft Maintenance Unit, during Monday's game. The 381st IS won with a score of 16-12 to advance in the playoffs.

Left: Ray Flores, a Red Belt, helps a first-time student learn the Korean martial art of Tang Soo Do.  
Below: Reynald Flores, a 1st Degree Black Belt and assistant instructor, helps Elizabeth Frasier, a Green Belt, with her kick. Tang Soo Do is offered at the Youth Center for \$35 a month and \$25 for each additional family member. The classes are held Tuesday and Thursday from 5:30-6 p.m. for 3, 4 and 5 year-olds, 6-7 p.m. for beginners and 7-8 p.m. for advanced. For information, contact Brian Crawford at 333-3361 or email [soobahkdo2@yahoo.com](mailto:soobahkdo2@yahoo.com).



PHOTOS BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS GARRETT HOTHAN